Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

receiving a plurality of packets at a plurality of first locations in a first switching device operatively coupled to a second switching device, the first switching device to transmit the plurality of packets to a plurality of second locations in the second switching device, each second location configured to receive packets from one or more first locations and other second locations;

receiving a message for regulating packet flow on the first switching device from the second switching device, the message identifying a congested second location in the second switching device; and

slowing packet transmission from the first switching device to the second switching device in response to receiving the message.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein slowing packet transmission comprises:

slowing packet transmission from the first switching device to the congested second location in the second switching device.

3. (Cancelled).

4. (Cancelled).

5. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:

transmitting from a first switching device to a second switching device operatively coupled to the first switching device, a message that indicates to regulate packet transmission to the first switching device, the first switching device receiving packets for packet transmission from at least one of one or more of first locations at the first switching device and one or more of second locations at the second switching device, the packet received from a source operatively coupled to the second switching device, the message transmitted upon determining that a first location where a packet is received is congested.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 further comprising:

transmitting the message from the second switching device to a third switching device.

7. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the first switching device includes an application-specific integrated circuit.

8. (Currently Amended) A computer program product, tangibly embodied in a computer readable medium, the computer program product when executed by a **[[**machine**]]** computer causes the **[[**machine**]]** computer to perform operations comprising:

receiving a plurality of packets at a plurality of first locations in a first switching device operatively coupled to a second switching device, the first switching device to transmit the plurality of packets to a plurality of second locations in the second switching device, each second location configured to receive packets from one or more first locations and other second locations;

receiving a message for regulating packet flow on the

first switching device from the second switching device, the message identifying a congested second location in the second switching device; and

slowing packet transmission from the first switching device to the second switching device in response to receiving the message.

9. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 8, the operations further comprising:

slowing packet transmission from the first switching device to the congested second location in the second switching device.

10. (Cancelled).

11. (Cancelled).

12. (Currently Amended) A computer program product, tangibly embodied in a computer readable medium, the computer program product when executed by a **[[**machine**]]** computer causes the **[[**machine**]]** computer to perform operations comprising:

transmitting from a first switching device to a second switching device operatively coupled to the first switching device, a message that indicates to regulate packet transmission to the first switching device, the first switching device receiving packets for packet transmission from at least one of one or more of first locations at the first switching device and one or more of second locations at the second switching device, the packet received from a source operatively coupled to the second switching device, the message transmitted upon determining that a first location where a packet is received is

congested.

13. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 12, the operations further comprising:

transmitting the message from the second switching device to a third switching device.

14. (Original) The computer program product of claim 12 wherein the first switching device includes an application-specific integrated circuit.

15. (Cancelled).

16. (Cancelled).

17. (Cancelled).

18. (Previously Presented) A system comprising:

a first switching device including a plurality of first locations, the first switching device configured to perform operations comprising,

transmitting a plurality of packets to one or more second locations at a second switching device, each second location configured to receive packets from a first location or a second location;

in response to receiving a message from the second switching device to regulate packet flow, the message identifying a congested second location, slowing transmitting packets to the congested second location.

19. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 18 wherein the first switching device is further configured to perform

operations comprising:

receiving a plurality of packets from the second switching device for packet transmission to one or more first locations, each first location configured to receive packets from other first locations or second locations;

transmitting to the second switching device a message that indicates to regulate packet transmission to the first switching device in response to determining that a first location is congested.

20 - 23. (Cancelled).

24. (Cancelled).

25. (Cancelled).

26. (Cancelled).

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein slowing packet transmission comprises stopping packet transmission from the first switching device to the congested second location in the second switching device.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a packet for packet transmission to a destination second location is queued at a sending first location.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 28, further comprising, in response to receiving the message slowing transmission of the packet from the first location, upon determining that the destination second location is the congested second location.

30. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 8, wherein slowing packet transmission comprises stopping packet transmission from the first switching device to the congested second location in the second switching device.

31. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 8, wherein a packet for packet transmission to a destination second location is queued at a sending first location.

32. (Previously Presented) The computer program product of claim 30, the operations further comprising, in response to receiving the message slowing transmission of the packet from the sending first location, upon determining that the destination second location is the congested second location.